



Elegu Flood victims receiving non-food relief items donated by Lutheran World Federation. Photo by Arnest Tumwesige

Amuru flood victims receive relief aid

AMURU

By Arnest Tumwesige

The Office of the Prime Minister and Lutheran World Federation (LWF), a non-governmental organisation, have donated an assortment of food and non-food relief items to Elegu flood victims in Amuru district in northern Uganda.

The consignments, which arrived on Friday, include; 700 bags of rice, weighing 50kg each, 100 bags of maize flour, weighing 100kg each and 10 bags of beans, weighing 100kg each.

LWF donated 400 blankets, 200 saucepans, over 2,000 plastic plates and cups, 200 tarpaulins and five cartons of aqua safe tablets.

Anthony Ocaya, 33, and a resident of Elegu B village in

Bibia parish, Atiak sub-county, was delighted to receive the relief items, saying he did not have any beddings.

Ocaya, who lives with his wife and one child, is among the hundreds of the residents whose houses were washed away by floods.

Margaret Adong, 43, from the same village is now sleeping in one of the classrooms of Elegu Primary School.

The mother of 11 shares the classroom with other 10 families whose houses were destroyed by the floods.

Joseph Otika, the Zone 4 chairperson, expressed disappointment with the way the relief items are being distributed.

"My zone is the most affected. People are in dire need of food and blankets, but they are instead being given to people who were

BETWEEN THE LINES:

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least affected," Otika added.

Otika, who also lost everything is surviving on handouts from friends across the border in Nimule, South Sudan.

Elizabeth Natukunda, whose husband owns Garden City lodge says all the 54 rooms were submerged. "We only recovered 19 mattresses. We are now going to start from scratch," she said.

Wilfred Odiya Baguma, the Atiak sub-county chairman, called

on the Government to ensure the Uganda Revenue Authority office is shifted to Bibia trading centre to prevent future disasters.

Geremew Yadessa, the team leader LWF, said more relief would be extended to the affected people with support of UNHCR.

Two bodies recovered

Meanwhile, a body of Condo Eberu, 60, a resident of the area, was recovered on Friday morning, bringing the number of the dead to two.

When New Vision contacted Michael Lakony, the district chairperson, said the perennial flooding of Elegu is not a problem for the district alone, but other partners should also help.

Lakony said while the district has agreed to relocate people, there should be a design on how the problem should be addressed.